

Mark Fergusson

Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer Healthy's, Inc. dba Down to Earth P.O. Box 1166 Kailua, HI 96734 Phone: (808) 254-5111 Fax: (808) 254-5552 mark@downtoearth.org

www.downtoearth.org

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

RE: Honolulu City Council Bill 10

Councilmembers,

We oppose Honolulu City Council Bill 10 as it will not achieve a result that is best for the environment, and will result in significant added costs for consumers and businesses.

In counties where plastic bags have been banned, the ban has merely led to a switch from plastic single use bags to single use paper bags with no reduction in the overall usage of wasteful single use bags.

The consumer switch to paper bags mandated by the neighbor island counties has increased costs for businesses, increased the amount of trash going to landfills, and has not helped the environment as paper bags are, in reality, as damaging, or even more damaging, to the environment than plastic bags are. The production and use of paper bags is damaging to the environment due to the chemicals used, the contribution to deforestation, and the increased use of resources to produce and transport them.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Mark Fergusson

Chief Vegetarian Officer

Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer